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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/028,133	12/20/2001	Charles E. Brugger	82187NAB	2430

7590 09/09/2005

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EXAMINER

WORKU, NEGUSSIE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2626

DATE MAILED: 09/09/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/028,133

Applicant(s)

BRUGGER ET AL.

Examiner

Negussie Worku

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 December 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-42 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-42 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 20 December 2001 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Objection to the Drawings

1. The drawings of fig 6 and 10 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) because they fail to show clearly the structural configuration and elements as described in the specification. Any structural detail that is essential for a proper understanding of the disclosed invention should be shown in the drawing. MPEP § 608.02(d). Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nakajima et al. (USP 5,532,841).

With respect to claim 1, Nakajima discloses a scanning system supporting platen (106 [100a] of fig 2) and sheet-fed scanning of documents (100b of fig 3), comprising: a first scanning unit (100a of fig 2) with a first enclosure housing a first set of mechanisms for sheet-fed scanning functions (ADF-type image reading unit 100b of fig 3, col.5, lines

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47-50), said first scanning unit (100a of fig 2) further comprising a tether interface (interface 164 of fig 6); and a second scanning unit (100b of fig 3) with a second enclosure attached to said first scanning unit (100a of fig 2) through said tether interface (interface 164 of fig 3) and including a second set of mechanisms for platen scanning (platen scanning 100a, comprising a set mechanism as shown in fig 2) of documents in operable combination with said first scanning unit (100a of fig 3).

With respect to claim 2, Nakajima et al. discloses the scanning system (as shown in fig 1) wherein a plurality of digital scanning devices (scanning device 100a-100c of fig 1), are attached to said first scanning unit (100a of fig 2) through said tether interface (interface 164 of fig 6).

With respect to claim 3, Nakajima et al. discloses the scanning system (as shown in fig 1) wherein a plurality of digital scanning devices (scanning device 100a-100c of fig 1) are attached to said first scanning unit (100a of fig 2) through said tether interface (interface 164 of fig 6), for scanning checks or tickets (scanning document) in combination with the first scanning unit (100a of fig 2).

With respect to claim 4, Nakajima et al. discloses the scanning system (as shown in fig 1) wherein a plurality of digital scanning devices (scanning device 100a-100c of fig 1), comprise at least one digital camera (CCD 151 of fig 2) for capturing digital photographs (photoelectric converter 151 of fig 5).

With respect to claim 5, Nakajima et al. discloses the scanning system (fig 1) wherein a unit control (controller 150 of fig 6) and image processing electronics (signal processor 152 of fig 6) contained in said first scanning unit (scanner 100 of fig 5) handle data control and camera movement, (col.5, lines 35-40) for both said first scanning unit and said second scanning unit, (col.6, line 53-56).

With respect to claim 6, Nakajima et al. discloses the scanning system (fig 1), wherein said first scanning unit (100 of fig 5) and said second scanning unit share a common host address (main control unit 300 of fig 1).

With respect to claim 7, Nakajima et al. discloses the scanning system (fig 1), wherein a third scanning unit (image reading unit 100c of fig 1) with a third enclosure are attached to said first scanning unit (100a of fig 1) through said tether interface (controller 150 is provided with interface circuit 164 for external equipments, (col.6, lines 60-65).

With respect to claim 8, Nakajima et al. discloses the scanning system (fig 1), wherein said tether interface is an electronic cable, (interface circuit 164 for external equipments, (col.6, lines 60-65).

With respect to claim 9 Nakajima et al. discloses the scanning system (fig 1),

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wherein said tether interface is a radio frequency link (154 of fig 5, col.6, lines 40-45).

With respect to claim 10, Nakajima et al. discloses the scanning system (fig 1), wherein said tether interface is a fiber optic cable (interface circuit 164 for external equipments, (col.6, lines 60-65).

With respect to claim 11, Nakajima et al. discloses the scanning system (fig 1), wherein said tether interface is an infrared link (interface circuit 164 for external equipments, col.6, lines 60-65).

With respect to claim 12, Nakajima et al. discloses the scanning system (fig 1), wherein said first set of mechanisms (102a, 102b, 104 of fig 2) of said first scanning unit (image reading unit 100a of fig 1) comprise: a feeder opening (cover 107 to be open to feed the document for scanning) through which paper documents are fed into said first scanning unit (100a of fig 2); an exit opening (cover 107 of fig 2) adapted to output scanned documents from said first scanning unit (100a of fig 1); a paper pathway extending from said feeder opening to said exit opening (tray 118 of fig 3, for receiving document from feeder opening); and a first image-forming subsystem (image forming 100a of fig 2), disposed within said first scanning unit for scanning images appearing on documents fed through said feeder opening (tray 100a of fig 2).

With respect to claim 13, Nakajima et al. discloses the scanning system (fig 1)

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wherein said first image-forming subsystem comprises a camera (CCD image sensor, col.5, lines 35-45).

With respect to claim 14, Nakajima et al. discloses the scanning system (fig 1), further comprising a feed roller (roller 117 of fig 3) disposed about said feeder opening and adapted to facilitate the introduction of said documents into said first paper pathway, see (col.5, lines 15-20).

With respect to claim 15, Nakajima et al. discloses the scanning system (fig 1) further comprising a separation roller (pick up roller 210 of fig 4) disposed adjacent to said feed roller (211 of fig 4) and adapted to ensure that only a single sheet of paper is fed through said feeder opening during at any one time, (col.6, lines 10-15).

With respect to claim 16, Nakajima et al. discloses the scanning system (fig 1), further comprising a plurality of rollers (210 and 211 of fig 4) disposed about said paper pathway and configured for facilitating the transmission of paper documents from said feeder opening to said exit opening, (col.6, lines 10-15).

With respect to claim 17, Nakajima et al. discloses the scanning system (fig 1), wherein said first image-forming sub-system (fig 2) comprises: a lens (104 of fig 2); a light source (101 of fig 2) disposed about said first paper pathway for directing light into paper documents entering said first scanning unit (scanning unit 151 of fig 2) through

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said feeder opening (platen cover 107); reflection means (mirror 103b, 103c of fig 2) disposed for guiding reflected light from said paper documents to said lens (104 of fig 2); and a camera (CCD sensor 151 of fig 2) for capturing an image of said reflective light.

With respect to claim 18, Nakajima et al. discloses the scanning system (fig 1), wherein said reflection means (mirror 103b and 103c of fig 2) comprises mirrors.

With respect to claim 19, Nakajima et al. discloses the scanning system (fig 1) wherein said second enclosure of said second scanning unit (100a of fig 2) further comprises a substantially flat upper surface (platen 106 of fig 2).

With respect to claim 20, Nakajima et al. discloses the scanning system (fig 1) wherein said second enclosure further comprising a glass top (platen 106 of fig 2) fixed to said upper surface and providing a platform upon which documents can be placed (platen cover 107 of fig 2).

With respect to claim 21, Nakajima et al. discloses the scanning system (fig 1), further comprising: a lid (document cover 107 of fig 2) for covering documents placed on said glass top (platen 106 of fig 2); and a hinging means coupling one end of said lid, (col.7, lines 55-57).

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With respect to claim 22, Nakajima et al. discloses a modular scanner system (fig 1): a first enclosure with a first stationary camera (CCD image sensor 252 of fig 2), therein, said first enclosure having a first opening for feeding a document to be scanned, (by opening a platen glass cover 107 of fig 2) a second opening for delivering a scanned document to a user (tray 111 of fig 3, for delivery scanned document); a first pathway extending between said first opening (feed path way by roller 117 of fig 3) and said second opening (111 of fig 3) within said first enclosure; document handling means (ADF of fig 2) within said first enclosure adapted for receiving said document through said first opening and transporting said document via said first paper pathway to an area within said first enclosure where said first stationary camera scans (CCD 151 of fig 2) said document; a light source (light source 101 of fig 2) for delivering light energy to said document; a light guiding means (mirror 103b, 103c 103a of fig 2) for directing reflected light energy from said document to said first stationary camera (CCD 151 of fig 2); a second enclosure having a substantially flat top surface with a glass top thereon (opening a platen glass cover 107 of fig 2); a moveable camera (CCD 151 of fig 2) for scanning documents on said glass top (Platen 106 of fig 2); translation means (102b of fig 2) within said second enclosure for moving said movable camera along an axis substantially parallel to said glass top, see (col.5, lines 35-40); and wherein said translation means (102b of fig 2) receives a drive signal from said first enclosure, see (col.5, lines 35-40).

With respect to claim 23, Nakajima et al. discloses the modular scanner (fig 1)

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wherein a second stationary camera (CCD 151 of fig 2) mounted within said first enclosure, see (col.5, lines 35-40).

With respect to claim 24, Nakajima et al. discloses the modular scanner (fig 1), wherein said second stationary camera (CCD image sensor 151, imaging 100b of fig 1) is adjacent to said first stationary camera, (image reading 100a of fig 1) see (col.5, lines 35-40).

With respect to claim 25, Nakajima et al. discloses the modular scanner (fig 1), wherein said light guiding means (mirror 103a, b, c of fig 2) comprises mirrors within said first enclosure adapted to direct light energy to a lens (lens 104 of fig 2) of said stationary camera (CCD image sensor 151 of fig 2).

With respect to claim 26, Nakajima et al. discloses the modular scanner (fig 1), further comprising: a lid (platen glass cover 107 of fig 2) for covering documents placed on said glass top (platen 106 of fig 2); and hinging means (cover 107, inherently provides hinging mechanism for coupling said lid to said flat-top surface), for coupling said lid to said flat-top surface.

With respect to claim 27, Nakajima et al. discloses the modular scanner (fig 1) wherein said translation means (carriage 102b of fig 2) comprises a pulley and belt system (since imaging system of fig 1, moves the carriage it is inherent that the system

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have a belt and pulley for moving the image 102b as shown by arrow A1 of fig 2) adapted to engage said movable camera (CCD image sensor 151 of fig 2) in said second enclosure for effecting platen scanning of documents placed on said glass top (platen glass 108 of fig 2)

With respect to claim 28, Nakajima et al. discloses the modular scanner (fig 1), wherein said first enclosure further comprises a hatch configured to permit a user to clear a paper jam from said paper pathway (in order to clear paper and/or other debris that may stuck within the paper pathway a hinging or a hatch inherently provided in the scanning system of fig 1).

With respect to claim 29, Nakajima et al. discloses the modular scanner (fig 1), wherein raw image data from said movable camera (CCD 151 of fig 2) is transmitted to said first enclosure by a tether (interface 164 of fig 6).

With respect to claim 30, Nakajima et al. discloses the modular scanner (fig 1), wherein raw image data from said second enclosure (image reading device 100b of fig 1) is processed in said first enclosure (image reading 100a of fig 1).

With respect to claim 31, Nakajima et al. discloses the modular scanner (fig 1), wherein power to said second enclosure (image reading device 100b of fig 1) is provided from said first enclosure (image reading 100a of fig 1) by a tether (interface

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164 of fig 6).

With respect to claim 32, Nakajima et al. discloses the modular scanner (fig 1), wherein finished image files are transmitted by said first enclosure (image reading device 100b of fig 1) to a host computer (CPU 161 of fig 6) for documents scanned both by said first enclosure and said second enclosure (image reading 100a of fig 1).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) The invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 33-42 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Westcott et al. (USP 6,628,433).

With respect to claim 33, Westcott et al. discloses a detachable platen scanner (fig 1A) for a scanning system supporting platen and sheet-fed scanning of documents (fig 1A-1B) comprising: an enclosure having a substantially flat top surface (12 and 14 enclosure 12 and 14 of fig 1A and 1B) with a glass top (26 of fig 1A) attached thereon, (col.5, lines 40-45); a camera (CCD of fig 2c) sub-assembly; translations means (feed mechanism ADF of fig 1A) within said enclosure adapted for moving said camera (CCD

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of fig 2) sub-assembly in a direction permitting scanning of documents placed on said glass top (26 of fig 1A); wherein drive signals for said translation means (feed mechanism ADF of fig 1A) are received from a separate scanning unit (image forming subsystem 70 of fig 1a)); and wherein raw image data from said camera sub-assembly is transmitted to said separate scanning unit for processing, (col.8, lines 45-55).

With respect to claim 34, Westcott et al. discloses a detachable platen scanner (fig 1A) 3) further comprising: a lid (28 of fig 4B) for covering documents placed on said glass top (26 of fig 1A); and hinging means (30 of fig 4b), coupling said lid to said enclosure.

With respect to claim 35, Westcott et al. discloses a detachable platen scanner (fig 1A), wherein said translation means (ADF of fig 4B) comprises a pulley and belt system for moving said camera (CCD of fig 2A) sub-assembly for effecting platen scanning of documents placed on said glass top (26 of 4b).

With respect to claim 36, Westcott et al. discloses a detachable platen scanner (fig 1A), wherein said enclosure further comprises a rod engaged with said camera (CCD of fig 1A) sub-assembly for moving said camera sub-assembly.

With respect to claim 37, Westcott et al. discloses an airport security system (fig 4B) comprising: a scanner for scanning documents relating to a passenger (CCD

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scanner shown in fig 1A through 4B); a digital camera (CCD of fig 4B) which captures a digital image of said passenger; and wherein said scanner prepares a composite image comprised of a scanned image of said document and said digital image of said passenger, (col.8, lines 25-40).

With respect to claim 38, Westcott et al. discloses scanner (fig 1A) airport security system wherein said composite image is transmitted to a host computer for storage (col.7, lines 9-12).

With respect to claim 39, Westcott et al. discloses the airport security system (fig 2) wherein a host computer cross-checks said image of said passenger against law enforcement agency files (col.7, lines 9-12).

With respect to claim 40, Westcott et al. discloses the airport security system 9scanner of fig 1A-4B), wherein a host computer cross-checks information in said scanned document against law enforcement agency files (col.7, lines 9-12).

With respect to claim 41, Westcott et al. discloses An airport security system (fig1A-2B), wherein said digital camera (CCD of fig 5) transmits information to said scanner by a tether.

With respect to claim 42, Westcott et al. discloses an airport security system (fig 1A) wherein additional scanners at other gates and additional digital cameras (CCD

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image sensor of fig 4b) at other gates transmit information on other passengers to said scanner in the form of raw image data for processing (col.7, lines 9-12).

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Negussie Worku whose telephone number is 571-272-7472. The examiner can normally be reached on 9am-6pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kimberly Williams can be reached on 571-272-7471. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


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Negussie Worku

08/25/05


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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER